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Notes on some Trypetidae (Diptera) collected in Ethiopia by the late Mr. Richter

By H. K. MUNRO, Pretoria.

With 3 Figures

In considering the species represented in a small collection of Trypetidae collected by the late Mr. W. RICHTER in Abyssinia and kindly sent by Dr. ERWIN LINDNER, it is again apparent that the identification of single specimens has become more and more difficult. It may be possible to recognise known species but the location of an apparently „new“ species may not be easy even if it should have well-marked characteristics. The main difficulty is perhaps that the genera themselves need revision within the whole subfamily classification.

In the present material species have had to be left in genera to which they do not belong and another remain unnamed until the genus to which it belongs will have been thoroughly checked. It may be added that in view of the increasing necessity to study the terminalia, single specimens and even types may eventually have to be dissected.

Dacus bivittatus Bigot.

One male and two females. Ethiopia (Jlubabor) Gore. 2007 m. 35°31'E., 8°8' N., 8—23. XII. 1959. W. RICHTER leg.

A well-known pest of cucurbits throughout Africa.

Trirhithrum coffeae Bezzi.

Trirhithrum nigerrimum var. *coffeae* Bezzi, 1918, Bull. ent. Res. 8: 241.

Trirhithrum coffeae Bezzi: Munro, 1934, Bull. ent. Res., 25: 485, Fig. 4a, b.

One female. S. Ethiopia. Prov. Sidama. Irga Alem. 28°23' E., 60°45' N. 4—12. II. 1960 W. RICHTER leg.

A pest of coffee in Africa. *T. coffeae* is distinct from *T. nigerrimum* Bezzi.

Paraciura perpicillaris (Bezzi)

Aciura perpicillaris Bezzi, 1920, Bull. ent. Res., 10: 253.

Paraciura perpicillaris (Bezzi): HERING, 1942, Mitt. Zool. Mus. Berlin, 25: 284. MUNRO, 1957, British Museum Ruwenzori Exp., 2: 889.

Biretmus perpicillaris Munro, 1947, Mem. Ent. Soc. S. Afr., 1: 135.

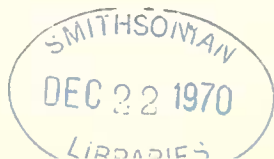
One male. Ethiopia. Jumma. 1779 m., 36°49' E., 7°39' N. 5—20. I. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

Isoconia hazelae Munro.

MUNRO, 1947, Mem. ent. Soc. S. Afr., 1: 110, Figs.

One female. S. Ethiopia. Gidole. Prov. Gimu Gofa, 2200 m. 37°26' E., 5°34' N. 23. II.—5. III. 1960, W. RICHTER leg.

Isoconia hazelae is described from South Africa, but in spite of the distance between the two localities, comparison of the specimen with the type series reveals no perceptible difference.



Brachyaciura Bezzi.

BEZZI, 1924, Bull. ent. Res., 15: 121.

MUNRO, 1935, Ann. Mus. Nat. Hung., 29: 138.

The genus is probably nearer *Isoconia* Munro because of the „argents“ on the wing.

Brachyaciura kovacsi Munro.BEZZI, 1924, l. c. *nomen nudum*.

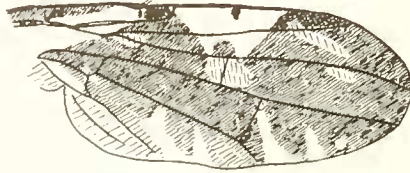
MUNRO, 1935, l. c.: 139, Fig. 7.

This is the type species of *Brachyaciura* and the name could well be credited to BEZZI if the short description given by him be considered „genus et species nov.“

One female. S. Ethiopia. Gidole. Prov. Gamu Gofa. 2200 m., 37°26' E., 5°34' N. 23. II.—5. III. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

This female, which may be regarded as the metatype, agrees with the description and pattern of the wing of the male type, the only other specimen known, also from Abyssinia.

In the original figure of the wing of *kovacsi*, the argents are not indicated, but are apparent in the figure of the wing (Fig. 1) given here. They are shown on the figure of the wing of *B. limbata* Bezzi (MUNRO, 1947, Mem. ent. Soc. S. Afr.: Fig. 187) and there is an obvious resemblance to the figures of the wings of species of *Isoconia* (op. cit. Figs. 148—163). Argents are also present in *Aciura*, *Oxyaciura*, *Metasphenisca* and *Tephraaciura* (syn. *Jacotella*).

Fig. 1. *Brachyaciura kovacsi*

Argents are shining, silvery spots that appear in oblique light on the dark areas of the wing. The most conspicuous are on either side of the upper cross-vein and an oblique stripe over the outer end of vein 2 and just below vein 3.

Female. Oviscape shining black, flattened in specimen, the membranous portion and the narrow, sharp-pointed aculeus brownish. Length 1.9 mm., 0.34 wing-length.

Metasphenisca gracilipes (Loew).

Trypeta gracilipes Loew, 1862, Berl. Ent. Zeit., 6: 90.

Metasphenisca gracilipes (Loew): MUNRO, 1947, Mem. Ent. Soc. S. Afr., 1: 128, Figs. (see for references).

One male. Ethiopia. Jemma. 1779 m. 36°49' E., 7°39' N. 5—29. I. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

Pliomelaena brevifrons Bezzi. f. *xyphosiina* Bezzi.*Euaresta-Pliomelaena brevifrons* Bezzi, 1918, Bull. ent. Res., 9: 30, Pl. I, Fig. 8.*Pliomelaena brevifrons* Bezzi: MUNRO, 1947, Mem. Ent. Soc. S. Afr., 1: 200 (see for comment).

One female. S. Ethiopia. Gidole. Prov. Gamu Gofa. 2200 m. 37°26' E., 5°34' N. 23. II.—5. III. 1960. W. RICHTER leg. One female. S. W. Ethiopia (Gamu Gofa). Konso 1610 m. 37°23' E., 5°16' E. 17.—23. II. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

Pediapelta Munro.

MUNRO, 1947, Mem. Ent. Soc. S. Afr., 1: 171.

Dicheniotes Munro.

MUNRO, 1938, Proc. R. Ent. Soc. London, B. 7: 118; 1947, Mem. Ent. Soc. S. Afr., 1: 177.

The difference between these two genera may not be very great. In general, in *Pediapelta* the bristles of the occipital row are thin and blacker, the dorsum of the thorax less or hardly dusted and so more shining black. In *Dicheniotes* the occipital row is paler and less thin and the thorax at least moderately dusted. The wing-pattern in both has two hyaline indents on the costa, two, occasionally three, in posterior cell 2 and two in posterior cell 3 with a few hyaline spots on the disc. There are no argents. In *Dicheniotes dispar* the pattern is aberrant in both sexes. Further, while these two genera have four scutellars, in *Gymnaciura* that has two scutellars, the wing-pattern is very much alike.

Dicheniotes discoguttata (Hering).*Brachyaciura discoguttata* Hering, 1941, Ann. Nathist. Mus. Wien, 51: 198, Fig. 3.

The figure of the wing is printed too dark to observe the venation, but the pattern is almost identical with that of *D. distigma* (MUNRO, 1947, Mem. Ent. Soc. S. Afr.,: Fig. 197). There is no indication of argents as occur in *Brachyaciura*. That the thorax is stated to be „mattgrau bestäubt“ would indicate that the species may be more correctly placed in *Dicheniotes*, although the occipital row is stated to be black. A comparison of *distigma* with the description of *discoguttata* shows the following differences:—

<i>discoguttata</i>	<i>distigma</i>
Occ. schwarz.	occipital row pale.
Thorax mattgrau bestäubt	moderate grey dust.
dc knapp vor a.sa.	a.sa — dc formula: 6:7:10. (= dc 0.1 distance between suture and hind margin of the dorsum before a.sa)
Beine rotgelb.	legs reddish yellow.
Schildchen mit 4 sc, die apicalen so lang wie die basalen.	apical scutellars about 0.6 length of basals.

The formula for the position of the dc and a.sa bristles is discussed in a recent paper (MUNRO, 1967, Ann. Natal Mus., 18:572, Fig. 70.)

Gymnaciura Hering.*Gymnaciura* Hering, 1942, Mitt. Zool. Mus. Berlin, 25: 284. Type species: *Aciura distigmoides* Hering 1941 (= *Spheniscomyia neavei* Bezzi).*Tanaosema* Munro, 1947, Mem. Ent. Soc. S. Afr., 1: 164. Type species: *Spheniscomyia neavei* Bezzi 1920.

This genus which has two scutellar bristles is allied to those with four such as *Pediapelta* and *Dicheniotes*, the species of which, especially *D. distigma*, have a very similar wing-pattern and general appearance.

Gymnaciura austeni (Munro) var.

One female. Ethiopia (Jlubabar) Gore. 2007 m., 35°31' E., 8°8' N. 8.—23. XII. 1959, W. RICHTER leg.

There is no particular difference between this specimen and a normal female of *austeni* except the greater size — length 3.7 mm., wing 3.5 mm., *austeni* ♀, length

3.0 mm., wing 2.75 mm. — and the more rounded and in the discal cell much larger hyaline spots on the wing (Fig. 2). In *austeni* the costal hyaline indents are usually more triangular, but in some specimens they tend to become less so; the hyaline spots in the discal cell are about two-thirds its width at the inner end. It is possible that with more material a study of the terminalia may show differences between this specimen and *austeni*.

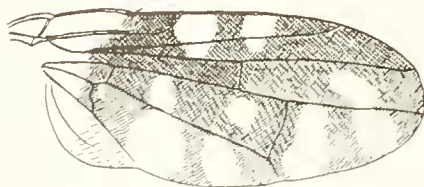


Fig. 2. *Gymnaciura austeni*, var.

Parafreutreta sp.

One female. S. Ethiopia. Gidole. Prov. Gamu Gofa. 2000 m., 37°28' E., 5°34' N. 23. II.—5. III. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

Some ten species have been described in the genus *Afreutreta*; most are gall-makers on various composite plants.

The species are all much alike or even so much so that, as in the case of one pair, *conferta-foliata*, the more marked difference is in the shape of the puparium. There is certainly some confusion and this can only be cleared by an intensive study including that of the terminalia — unfortunately material is very scarce. The identification of a single female is at present almost impossible.

Antoxya oxynoides (Bezzi).

Euribia oxynoides Bezzi, 1924, Bull. ent. Res., 15: 138.

Antoxya oxynoides (Bezzi): MUNRO, 1957, British Museum Ruwenzori Exp., 2: 935, Figs. 47, 48 (see for references).

Two females. Ethiopia. Jemma. 1779 m., 36°49' E., 7°39' N. 5.—29. I. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

A less common species recorded from Kenya and Uganda.

Dioxya sororcula (Wiedemann).

Trypeta sororcula Wiedemann, 1830, Auss. zw. Ins., 2: 509.

Dioxya sororcula (Wiedemann): MUNRO, British Museum Ruwenzori Exp., 2: 938 (see for synonymy).

One female. Ethiopia. Jimma. 1779 m., 36°49' E., 7°39' N., 5.—29. I. 1960. W. RICHTER leg. One female. S. W. Ethiopia. Konso. Prov. Gamu Gofa. 1610 m., 37°23' E., 5°16' N., 29. III. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

This very common and wide-spread species lives in the seeds of *Bidens* (Compositae).

„*Trupanea* s.l.“ *woodi* Bezzi.

Trypanea woodi Bezzi, 1924, Bull. ent. Res., 15: 146.

One male. S. Ethiopia. Gidole. Prov. Gamu Gofa. 2200 m. 37°26' E., 5°34' N. 23. II.—5. III. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

This specimen may certainly be the wide-spread „*T.*“ *woodi* although the yellowness over the upper cross-vein is not as marked as usual.

This and the following species do not belong to *Trupanea* s.s. and correct generic position must await further revisions like that on the genus *Trupanea* (MUNRO, 1964, Dept. Agric. Tech. Services Pretoria, Ent. Memoir 8).

„*Trupanea* s.l.“ sp.? *mutila* Bezzi.

One male. S. Ethiopia. Gidole. Prov. Gamu Gofa. 2200 m. 37°26' E., 5°34' N. 23. II.—5. III. 1960. W. RICHTER leg.

Only the female type of „*T.*“ *mutila* Bezzi is known from South Africa. Comparison of this male with the type shows no pertinent differences. However, since many species are very much alike, single specimens can only be satisfactorily identified when sufficient material is available to make a detailed study.

Clematochaeta Hering

HERING, 1941, Ann. Nathist. Mus, Wien, 51: 205.

MUNRO, 1957, British Museum Ruwenzori Exp., 2: 1048.

Type species: *Euribia perpallida* Bezzi, 1918.

In considering the position of the following new species, it is necessary to discuss this genus in more detail.

In the lack of data and since the genus is stated to be „quite near“ (ganz nahestehend) the previous one, *Cordylopteryx*, it must be assumed, from the description, that it has also one upper and two lower orbitals, and „only“ the basal scutellars. It is not evident whether specimens of the type species were available when the genus was erected, or that only Bezzi's description was relied on. However, in the latter's description it is stated „2 lower or.“, but the statement „the middle scutellar pair is weak and crossed“ can only refer to the „apical“ scutellars.

Specimens taken to be *perpallida* were compared with the type in the British Museum. These have three lower orbitals and four scutellars, the apicals about one fourth the length of the rather long basals. It may be noted that the arista is micropubescent, not bare. The wing-pattern is a pale brownish reticulation, more strongly marked in oblique light. There is in the inner end of posterior cell 1, just before the lower cross-vein a characteristic darker spot, that may be rather pale to dark, with a conspicuous hyaline spot on either side.

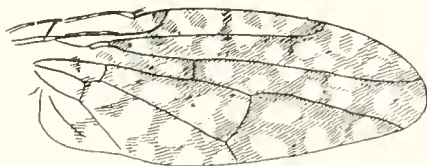


Fig. 3. *Clematochaeta pacifer*

Clematochaeta pacifer n. sp.

Holotype ♂. Ethiopia (Jlubabor). Gore. 2007 m. 35°34' E., 8°8' N. 8.—23. XII. 1959. W. RICHTER leg.

A pale yellow species. ♂. Length 3.5 mm., wing 4.3 mm. Head pale yellow; length: height:width, 6:7:10; eye oval, length 0.7 height. Frons narrowed anteriorly, width at vertex 1.1 length, equal at antennae, at vertex 0.47 width of head; white dusted on sides. Bristles: pale, postorbital row moderate, inner and outer verticals slightly darker; two upper, three lower orbitals, ocellars rather long, no preocellars. Lunule short. Antennae as long as face, somewhat porrect; segment 3 narrowed apically and with a small point at apex; arista micropubescent. Face: parafacials narrow widened to 0.18 height of eye below; short proboscis and palpi yellow. Thorax very pale ochraceous, moderate dust somewhat brownish in certain lights, pubescence rather sparse, short, pale. Bristles pale, mid scapulars weak, chaetotaxy complete, formula:

anterior supra alars 6, dorsocentrals 9, scutum 10. Pleura and sterna like dorsum, dust more yellowish. Scutellum slightly convex, pale whitish dusted, bare on disc some pale pubescence on sides; four bristles, basals twice length of apicals which are slightly longer than scutellum. Wing (Fig. 3): vein 3 rather sparsely setose above to mid posterior cell 1 and below more close-set to same point; pattern: in transmitted light barely visible but quite distinct in oblique light, the darker spot at inner end of posterior cell 1 weak; lower outer end of anal cell not pointed. Abdomen very light ochraceous, the anterior two-thirds of tergite 4 light brown; pubescence and bristles pale. T. 9 apparently globular, not dissected.

Author's address:

Dr. H. K. Munro, Private Bag 134, Pretoria, South Africa